CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code means therein for providing a single application programming interface, said computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to affect communicating between a member of a process group of related processes and another member of said process group; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to affect synchronizing said related processes of said process group.

2. The computer readable program code means in said computer program product of claim 1, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to affect managing membership of at least one of said process group and a processor group of processors.

3. The computer readable program code means in said computer program product of claim 1, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to affect controlling a group state value for said process group.

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4.   A computer program product comprising a
computer useable medium having computer readable
program code means therein for providing a single
application programming interface, said computer
readable program code means in said computer program
product comprising:

  computer readable program code means for
  causing a computer to affect communicating
  between a member of a process group of related
  processes and another member of said process
  group;

  computer readable program code means for
  causing a computer to affect synchronizing said
  related processes of said process group;

  computer readable program code means for
  causing a computer to affect managing membership
  of said process group and a processor group of
  processors; and

  computer readable program code means for
  causing a computer to affect controlling a group
  state value for said process group.

5.   The computer readable program code means in
said computer program product of claim 4, further
comprising computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect monitoring, by a member
of said process group having no voting rights, one or
more aspects of said process group.